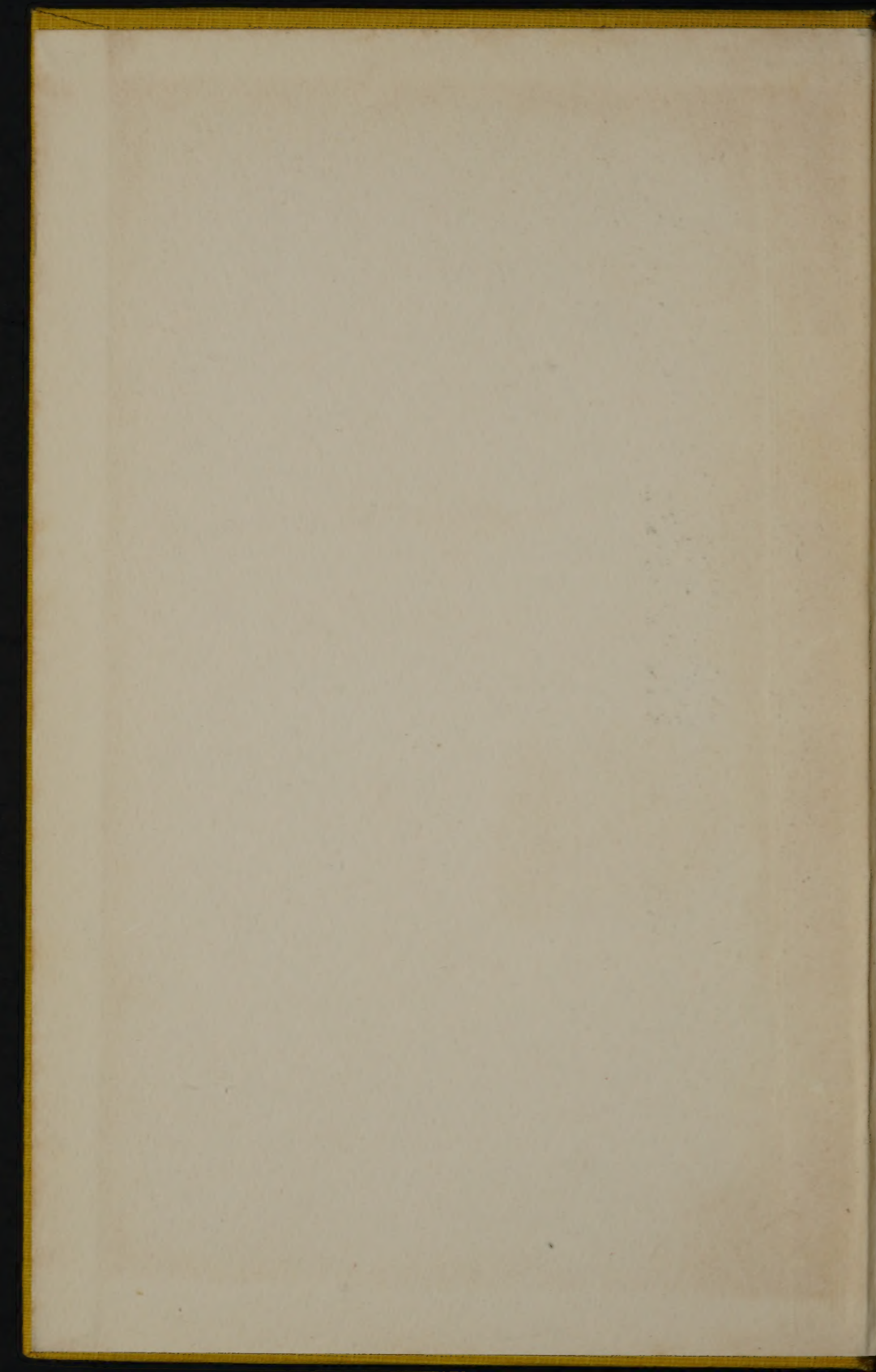


THE STORY  
OF  
ST. FAITH'S





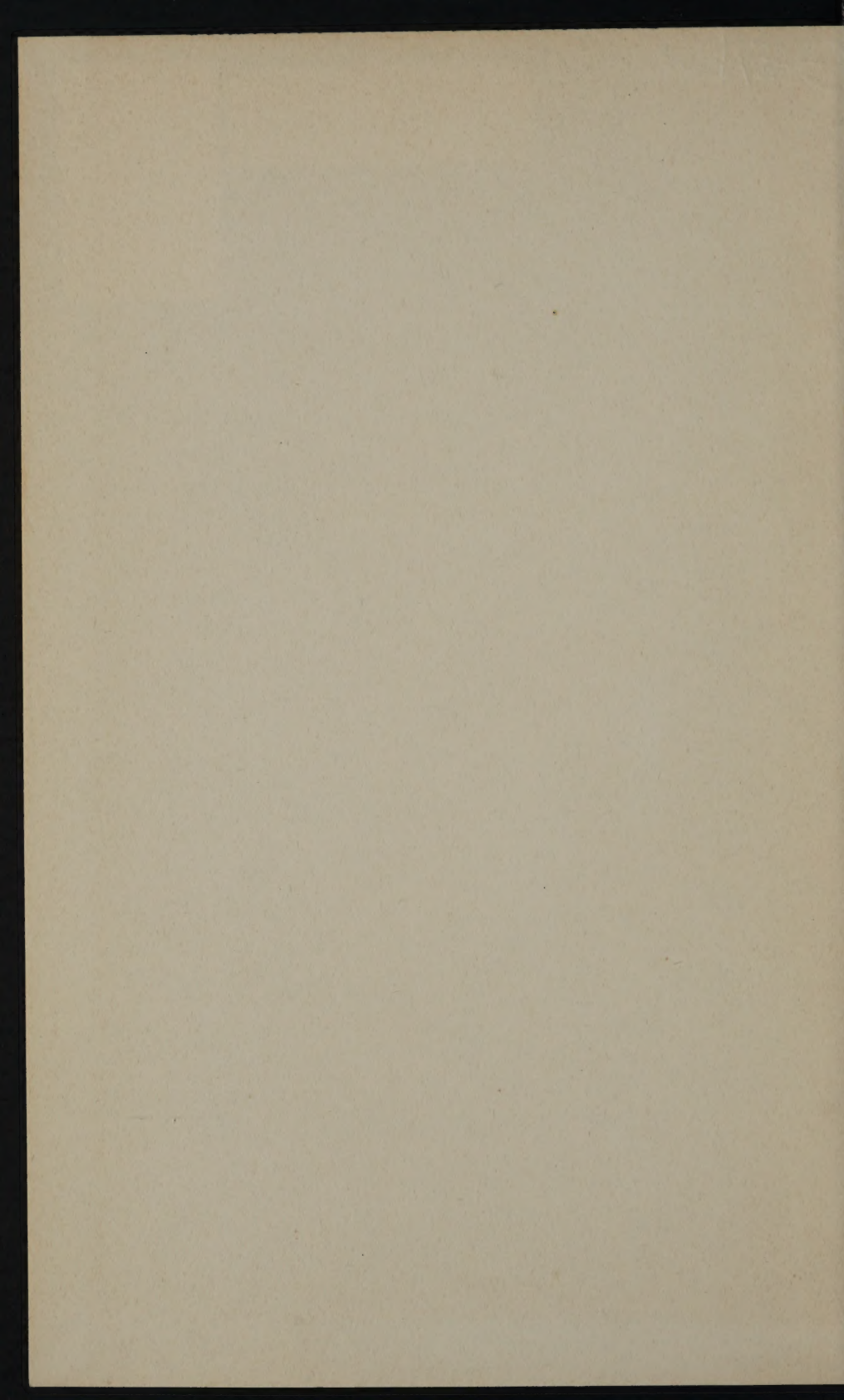
GEN

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



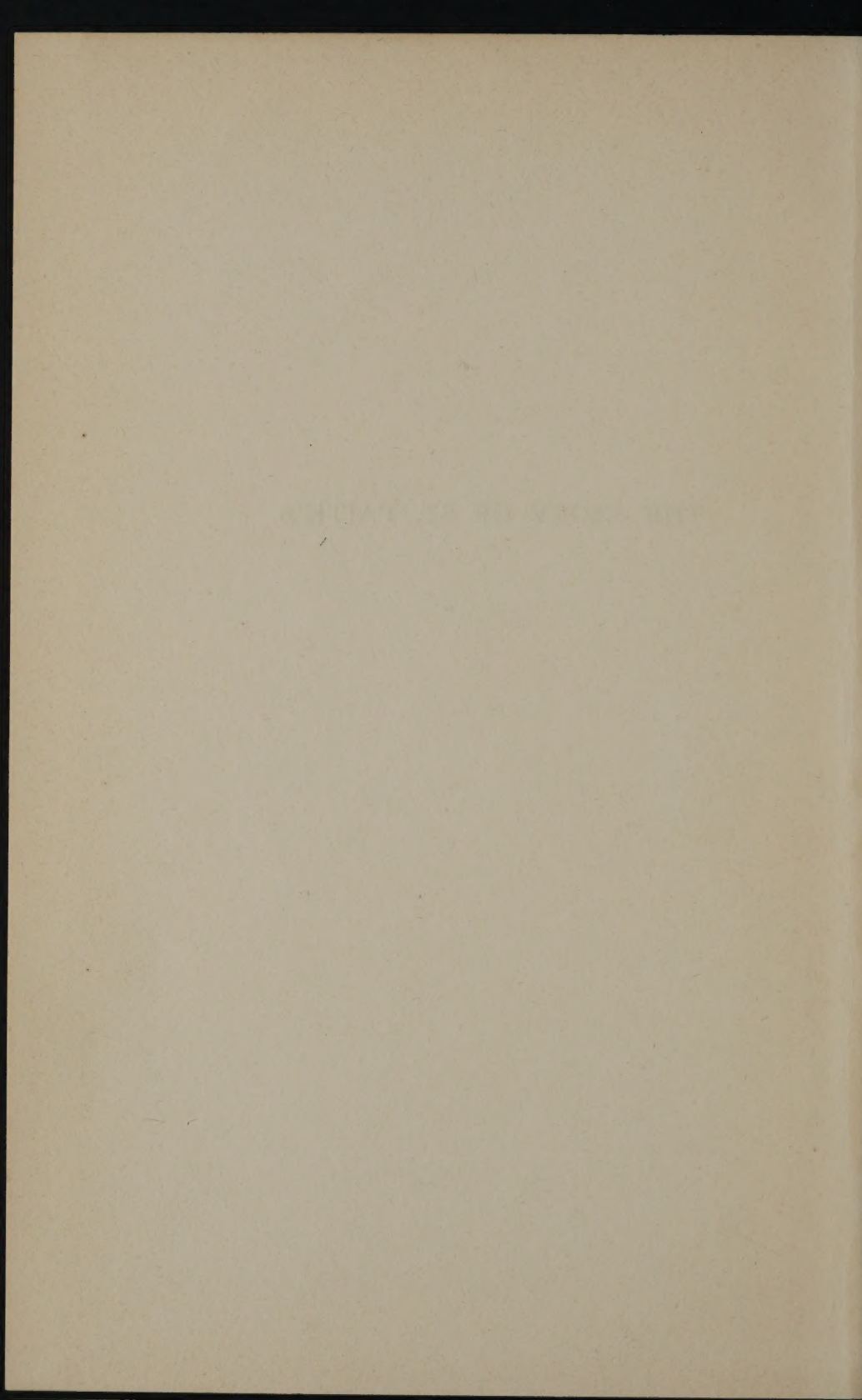
3 1833 01876 8447

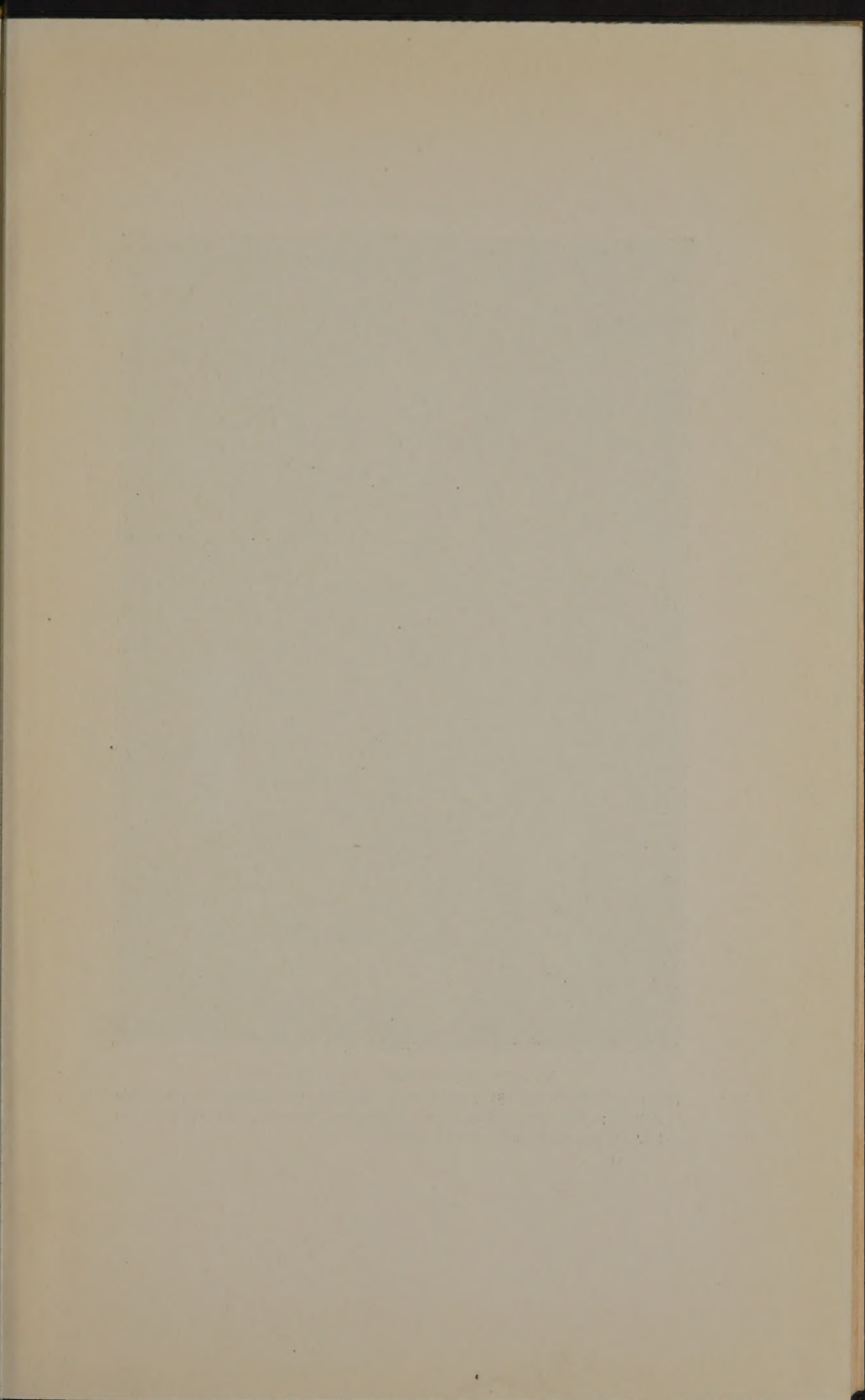
GC  
974.702  
SA71CO



THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S









ELEANOR ANASTASIA SHACKELFORD

Born February 20, 1853, died July 13, 1925; Founder, St. Faith's School; Principal, 1890-1912; Principal Emerita, 1912-25; Member Board of Trustees, 1890-1925



# THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S

A VISION AND ITS FULFILLMENT

BY

ALICE I. COMPTON, ST. FAITH'S '07



*ECCE ANCILLA DOMINI*

Privately Printed by  
THE AMERICAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.,  
NEW YORK  
1931

THE STORY OF  
ST. PAUL'S

A HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION

OF THE CHURCH AND  
SCHOOL



BY THE REV. F. J. W. [Name]

1880

## PREFACE



IN these latter days, we are accustomed to experiments along educational and social service lines. Indeed, our progress, if there be such, is largely the result of these experiments. But forty-five years ago, for one to have a vision, and to dream dreams, along these lines, was not so common. And, although visions might have been and dreams might have been dreamed, to carry them out required much courage and fortitude. Endowed with vision and a capacity to dream dreams, with foresight and courage, spurred on by the joy of service to "these little ones," two young women started the fulfillment of their heart's desire in Saratoga Springs. St. Faith's was born. Wonderingly, they watched her grow, constantly blessed by the prayers and alms of those interested. To Miss Eleanor Shackelford, daughter of the Reverend Doctor John W. Shackelford, was given the privilege of seeing her fond hopes realized when, duly chartered by the Board of Regents, her little group grew into a well established school for girls. Unique



## THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S

was her experiment, daring was her courage, as she went bravely on, in those early days, undaunted by odds, sometimes heavy burdens, yet always sustained by a deep abiding faith that, as she herself expressed it before she went to her reward, "St. Faith's is God's work. He will not suffer it to fail."

On Miss Shackelford's birthday, February 20th, always kept at the school as Founder's Day, in 1931, the Board of Trustees delighted to honor the memory of this pioneer by placing a window to her memory in the School Chapel. Preceding the service of unveiling and dedication, in Shackelford Hall, in the presence of many friends and the student body and faculty of the school, the story of St. Faith's was read, as compiled and written by Miss Alice I. Compton, St. Faith's, 1907, and head of the Lower School. With love and enthusiasm, Miss Compton, one of Miss Eleanor's "girls," had taken up this work, which the Founder herself had always intended to do but had been prevented by a busy life hampered by failing health. The following pages are the result of that labor of love. The Story of St. Faith's is sent out into the world to bear its message of service, of love for one's fellowman, of sacrifice, of inspiration, and

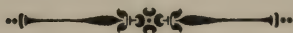
## THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S

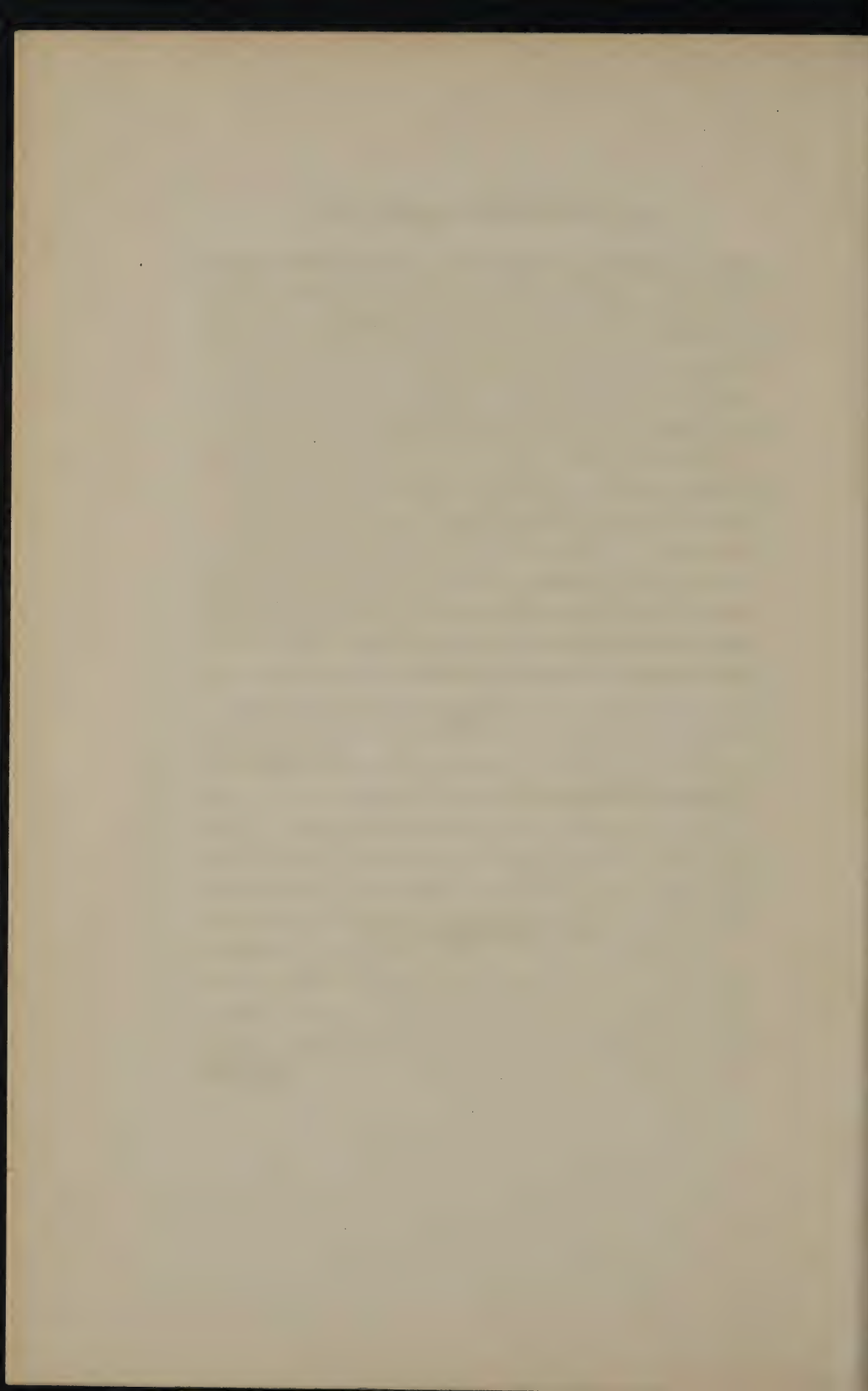
with the earnest prayer that, reading these pages, one may pause to contemplate the wonder of a life which was not afraid and which, in all of its successes, was truly humble and which was lived according to the school motto, adopted so many years ago, "*Ecce Ancilla Domini.*"

Grateful acknowledgments are due Miss Allena Pardee, longtime Trustee and generous benefactor, who made this publication possible; to Mr. George R. P. Shackelford, for his unfailing interest in providing data and pictures of the early days of St. Faith's, and to numbers of the Alumnæ who contributed materially to the accuracy of the story of their own school days.

CHARLES H. L. FORD,  
Principal.

Ascensiontide, 1931.







## THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S



*A Vision*—About forty-two years ago, in the Rectory of the Church of the Redeemer, two young women, inspired by love for God and His children, worked and planned and dreamed together.

Miss Eleanor Shackelford, the Rector's daughter; Miss Beatrice Sands, her warm friend and constant companion, were indefatigable workers amongst the young people and children, the Mothers' Club, and St. Agnes' Guild. It was a busy life of wide and real service. Rarely were they seen without a group of little tots hanging on their skirts, frequently tiny babies in their arms.

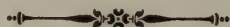
Only the few evenings spent quietly by the fire-side gave time to recall the labors of active hours and to take stock of the effectiveness of this work. Such times showed cause for great thankfulness. They could look back upon the relief of serious troubles, the start of new life, and interest where all had been failure.

Yet often were they grieved to recall how a sweet young bud of special promise was doomed

## THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S

to dull and stunted growth for lack of the free open spaces and rich cultivation which only could work toward fulfillment of the perfect flowering.

Thus it came about that these friends began their dreams; at first only as the longing of their earnest desire, soon with a strength of purpose that grew and took form till they communicated their plans to friends and family. Though they received little encouragement, all sorts of practical details were discussed and they started out with the thrill of explorers into a new land, planning the beginning of an establishment that should be both home and school for the little girls that so captivated their interest.

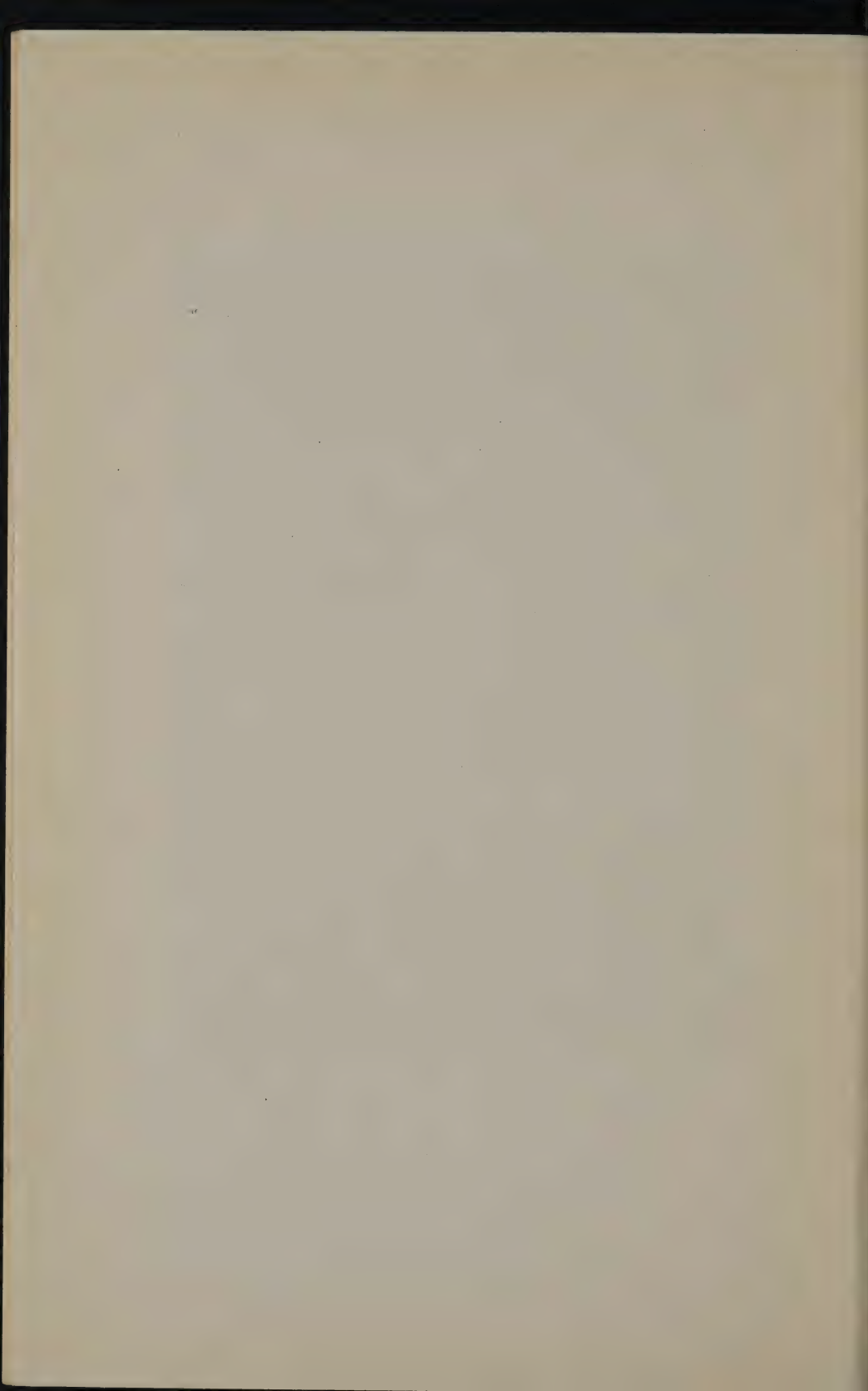


*From the Records*—It is ever thrilling to hear how a devoted vision can prevail against great odds. Many persistent obstacles overcome, "in May, 1890," so the story reads from their own account, "a very little company" gathered in one of the unpainted cottages in Congressville, built for the hands who worked in the bottle factory close by. Sister Gertrude, three little children, the two women whose hearts were in the work, and Dr.



MISS SUSAN MEYER, ONE TIME TEACHER OF MUSIC AND  
COMPOSER OF THE MUSIC OF THE SCHOOL SONG





## THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S

Carey, made up that little company who prayed for God's blessing on the summer's work.

Of our Rector's benediction that day it might indeed be said "the thing that he blessed was blessed." The family grew from three to eight and nine before the end of the summer. The room which was dining room, sitting room and living room was also mission chapel on Thursday evenings, when Dr. Carey held cottage services, the congregation sometimes numbering as many as fifty worshippers, many of them people who never entered a church door. A small wooden anchor served as a knocker upon the hospitable door of that little home school which they called Hope Cottage.

In August friends from the town helped with an entertainment, which was given in the garden and realized \$76. This (if you please!) was to begin the winter's work.

Later, \$50, the price of a story, was added to the princely sum, and on October 6th, St. Faith's Day, of the same year, in a tiny old brown house, near "the row," with its view of the western hills, Dr. Carey gave the benediction to St. Faith's School. That night the three little girls sitting before the fire made plans and built air castles.

## THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S

The first week brought Harold, strong protector, giant mastiff, a present from Mr. Spencer Trask, as gentle as a kitten with the children, but fierce if a tramp appeared on the lonely country road. Also a baby boy—six weeks old—whose mother, a young widow, came as working house-keeper.

Cottage services were continued fortnightly, a Sunday school of 29 children was soon gathered, and a boys' guild met weekly. On All Saints' Day the baby, Irwin Arthur Gordon, was baptized with four of the neighbors' children. At Christmas time the whole congregation and Sunday school came for a party and, though the gifts were only inexpensive little remembrances or useful gifts, the pleasure and happiness were extravagant and the St. Faith's girls had the real joy of gracious hostesses.

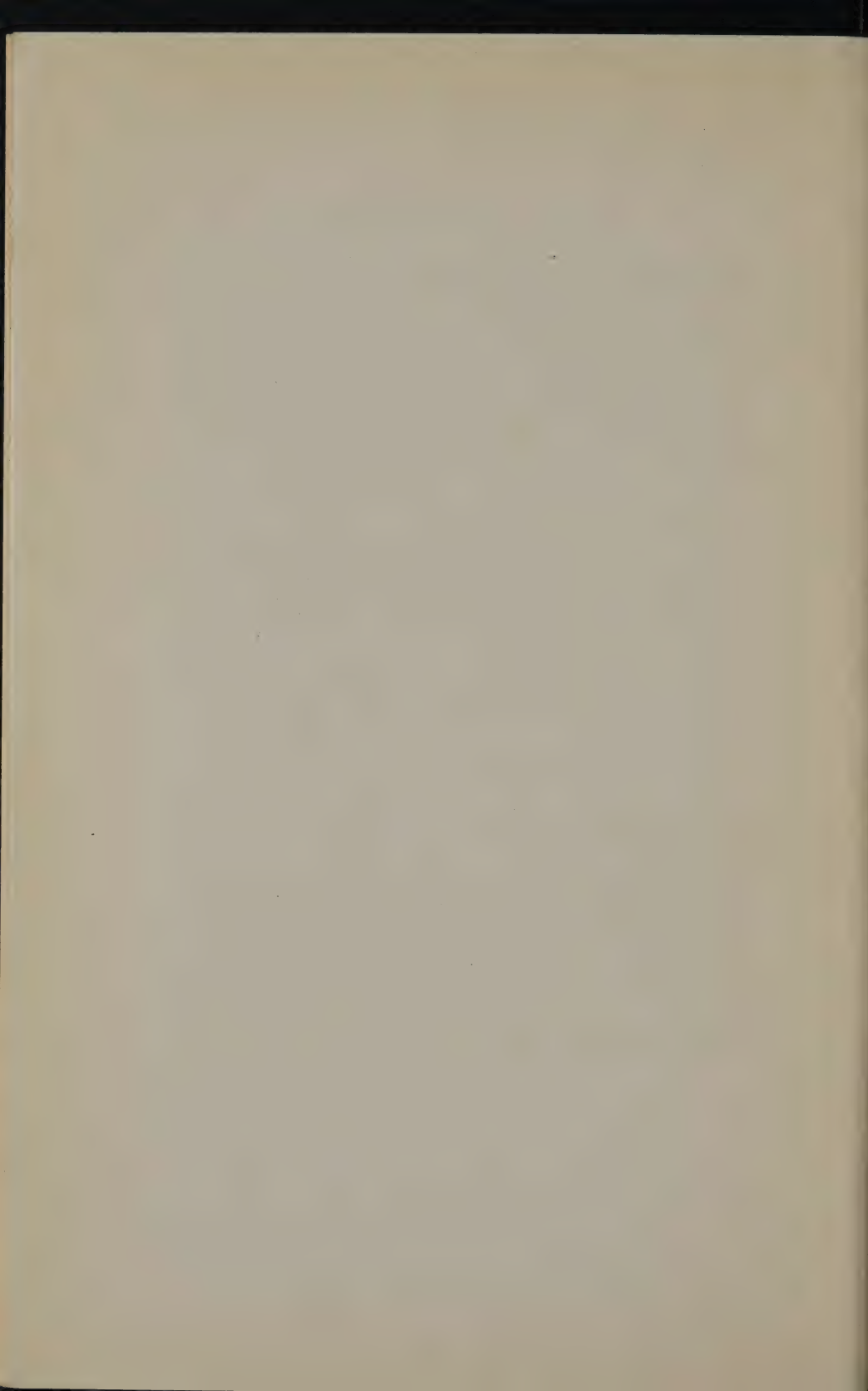
The spring of '91 found a family of eleven, excluding Harold and the cats. The little brown house, a story and a half, with only seven rooms, was full to overflowing and already applications for entrance were being received. Clearly, more room was needed!

At that time Miss Shackelford, her brother and sister, were joint owners of an old family resi-





THE FIRST STUDENTS OF ST. FAITH'S, 1890



## THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S

dence which stood in a grove of forest oaks. By mutual agreement, Miss Shackelford acquired it for the home of her new school.

Possessed of a real dungeon with all its horrible legends, "haunted," a rendezvous for tramps, open to the buffetings of the four winds, wreathed in cobwebs, it nevertheless lifted to the world a beautiful old colonial front and was firmly built upon good, if old, foundations. A grove of first growth forest oaks, stretching northward and west, promised staunch setting for difficult days. The two courageous pioneers were gleeful as school girls.

The oaks have developed to twice the size of those early days, but still they stand, the center and heart of a hardy growth. Adjoining plots of land have been acquired from time to time, providing space for extended building and protection from encroachment, until now St. Faith's stands on goodly acres, thirteen in number.

On Ascension Day, 1891, Dr. Carey blessed the second and permanent St. Faith's and there began the slow toiling uphill work of building upon an ideal without a bank account. There were twelve girls and the baby, then past his first birthday. It was a happy family, each member caring for



## THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S

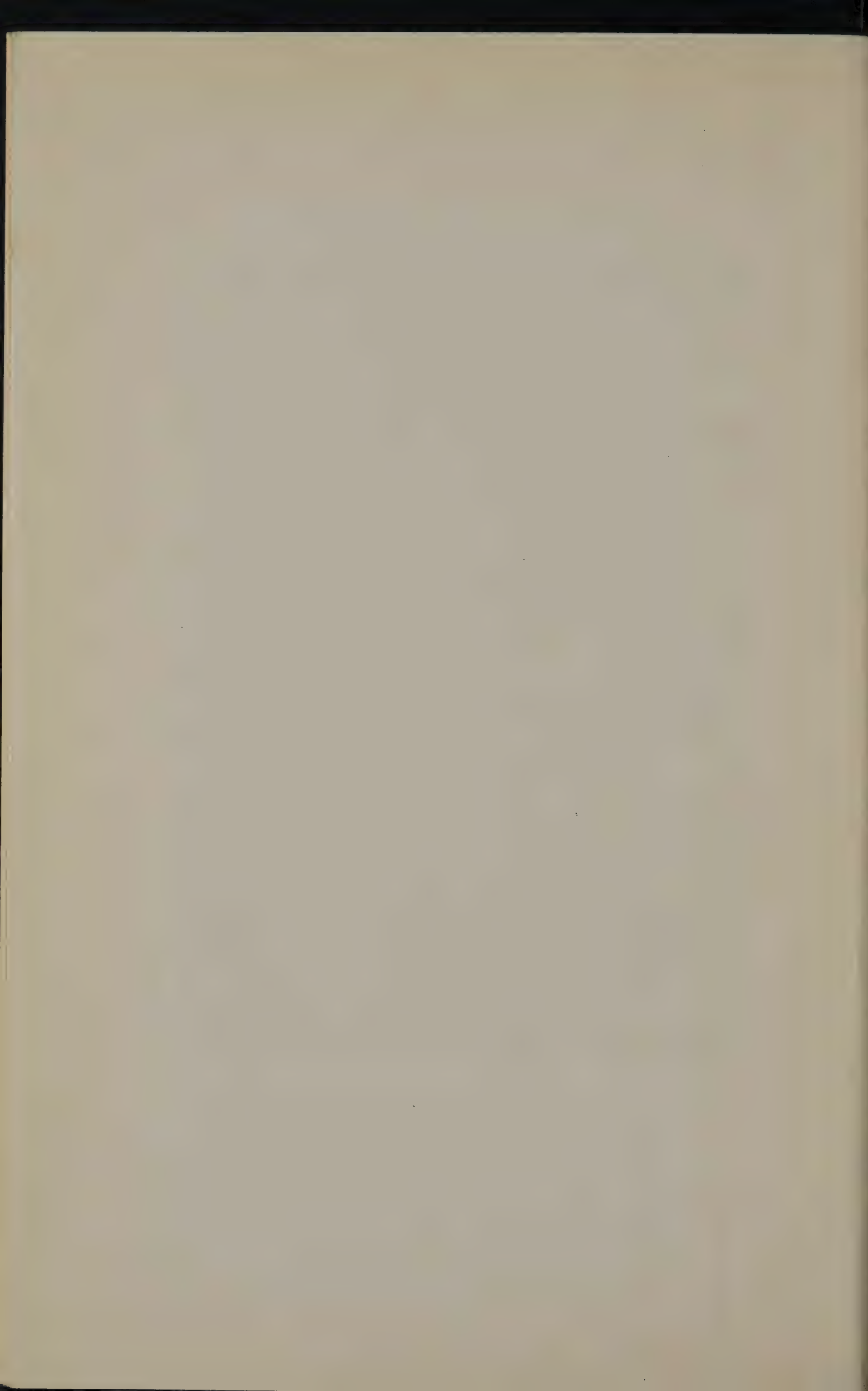
the new home as though it belonged to her alone. Press notices of the time allude to this "noble self-sacrificing work" as "a unique scheme of benevolence—a home school for girls of gentle birth who through untoward circumstances have not the means to secure an education,"—yet distinctly not a charity, since a yearly sum of \$150 is charged to each pupil.

Little more than a year later, after further scheming, the corner-stone of a much needed wing was laid. On All Saints' Day the Rector gave the benediction and amid the excitement of curiosity it was disclosed that the building was a memorial to Louise Duer, given by the little girl's grandmother, Mrs. Caroline N. Baldwin, and with enthusiastic appreciation, Mrs. Baldwin was adopted as St. Faith's Fairy Godmother, thenceforth alluded to always and often by that affectionate name and repeatedly demonstrating its peculiar appropriateness. A schoolroom, dining room and additional sleeping rooms were thus provided and many generous gifts were made to furnish them usefully and attractively. Dr. and Mrs. Dowd, of Temple Grove Seminary, gave the desks, and Miss Shackelford's class of '74 of Temple Grove gave the ornamental tiles for



ABOVE—THE SECOND HOME OF ST. FAITH'S, WHERE THE  
SCHOOL WAS AFTER REMOVAL FROM HOPE COTTAGE

BELOW—THE MAIN BUILDING AS IT WAS IN 1890





## THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S

the schoolroom fireplace. This is of interest to present-day St. Faith's girls, as many of their schoolmates attend Skidmore College, which stands upon the site of Temple Grove, so loyally loved by the founder of St. Faith's.

Improved conditions aroused greater ambitions. Educational standards were raised, and seeking to lay foundations for excellency, application was made for admission to the University of the State of New York. Duly inspected, an operation of such importance that the excitement nearly proved fatal, in June, 1893, St. Faith's was admitted to the University and received her charter. This was also a help financially, in that it brought exemption from taxes and, during the first two years of membership, the University paid half the price of any equipment bought. For many years the annual visit of the "Regents Inspector" was an event rousing varying emotions, but bringing constant benefits.

Making amazing strides in efficiency, as well as enrollment, further enlargements became necessary and additions were made to chapel, dining room and schoolroom.

## THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S

*Oak Leaves*—In the dim distant ages, when St. Faith's was a mere infant, less than three years of age, a small single sheet, known as "The Nundandus," made its appearance from time to time, with various articles of historic and literary value. Sad to tell, its only remaining trace is the name in the first issue of "Oak Leaves."

April, 1894, "Oak Leaves," Volume I, Number I! So began the classic periodical that records the thoughts and doings of St. Faith's. Twelve issues a year was the first ambitious record, carried to Volume V, Number 12, October, 1899, bound in a large flat tome, not a number missing. Almost as complete is the twin sister volume running to December, 1904. What a vivid picture these give of the "first hundred years!"

One number each of the "Point of View" and "St. Faith's Quarterly" are all that remains of the period from December, 1904, to December, 1915.

From Christmas, 1915, to June, 1923, "Oak Leaves"—New Series— was published quarterly.

Last, but not least, "Oak Leaves Annual," produced each year by the Junior Class, made its appearance in June, 1924, when the class of '25 dedicated the fruits of the year's labor to Miss Eleanor. It is a big task that the Juniors accom-



SHACKELFORD HALL





## THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S

plish, but they do it well and so do their bit for the honor of *alma mater*.

By the way of footnote: In the intimacy of the school family there has appeared this year of '30-'31 a perky little paper on multigraphed sheets under the name and sign of "The Acorn." And how we like it! It goes the rounds during dinner at certain stated times, commanding complete attention even from food and noise.

It is to be hoped that both "Oak Leaves" and "The Acorn" will continue in present form for many a year. In them we find much of interest of bygone days, of present times, and even a bit of the future.



*Infirmity*—"If a contagious illness should break out, what would become of you?" So, in February, 1895, spoke the doctor who had been a constant and untiring friend since the struggling days of the little brown cottage. Small wonder that, when Dr. Comstock spoke, St. Faith's started immediate action. But it rather takes the breath to find that a month after his warning, so strong a plea, backed by such independent activity had gone forth that several means of raising

## THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S

money were already at work. An Easter story, "How the Princess Found Her King," was printed and the girls folded, tied, and decorated the little booklets ready for sale. A real thrill throbs through "Oak Leaves" in telling about "The Barrel of China." Mr. Joseph Mayer, father of Jessie Angela, one of St. Faith's little girls, read of the plans for a new infirmary and immediately wrote that he would send all necessary china from his own factory, and as good as his word, it was soon on the way. It adds a note of strange wonder to the sadness of the next issue of "Oak Leaves" to find beneath a black printed cross—"Jessie Angela, only daughter of Joseph and Helen T. Mayer, nine years of age, went to Paradise April 22nd, 1895, from St. Faith's School." She and three other little girls had been ill only four days of a malignant form of scarlet fever. The others recovered. Angela's name lives in many corners of St. Faith's.

The new infirmary, though still only on paper, was named the Jessie Angela Mayer Memorial. The motto, *Semper Sub Aliis* ("Always under the Wings"), was adopted and worked into a beautiful design of angel wings on the tiles of the fireplace, where it is traced today by St. Faith's



JESSIE ANGELA MAYER, WHO WENT FROM ST. FAITH'S TO  
THE JOY OF PARADISE AT EASTERTIDE, 1895





## THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S

girls as they hear the story of Angela. All through the simple account one feels the radiance of that sunshiny little person and when the cottage was opened on September 27, her birthday, one of the most touching tributes to her and to the sweet spirit that ruled the school family was the bright little "play corner" fitted with Angela's wealth of dolls and toys.

For ten of the most critical years in the history of the school the Jessie Angela Mayer Memorial Cottage did its noble work, caring not only for the few casualties in the school family, but also for groups of children from New York City hospitals during the summer months.

By careful arrangement the memorial to Angela was later transferred to an organ transept in the chapel and the infirmary became "Newman Cottage," in memory of a dear and faithful friend, Mrs. Ellen Stewart Newman.

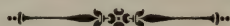
In this transept a sweet-toned reed organ, also a memorial to Angela, for years led our chapel, until quite worn out; it was replaced by a splendid two-manual pipe organ, the gift of the class of 1930.

Meanwhile, with the growing demand of modern curricula and enlarged enrollment, Newman

## THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S

Cottage has for many years been doing more than double service. Music rooms, science laboratory and classroom, laundry and accommodations for our faithful "Mitty Young" and Elizabeth Taylor are all crowded into that little cottage.

Notwithstanding an exceptionally good health record, we could not long manage without an infirmary, so when the principal's home was built, the large sunny south room which had been Mrs. Ford's sitting room, became a miniature hospital ward. Modern equipment, including four hospital beds, chairs, sterilizer and medicine closet, was the gift of Mr. Charles H. Lehman, father of two alumnae, Jane '28, and Helen '30.



*The Legion of Honor*—Amongst varying awards three have been of such significance as to merit mention in these records. The Legion of Honor of St. Faith's belongs to the old days only, a cross surmounting a circle, done in a simple, silver pendant. An award of courage, it included the bravery of unselfish service and many young nurses wore it at the end of the Summer's Fresh Air Work. The Order of St. Faith's was instituted in 1924. Gold, silver and bronze medals



FACULTY AND STUDENTS, COMMENCEMENT, 1930

Mr. and Mrs. Ford are Seated in the Front Row. The Author is Standing Directly Behind Mrs. Ford





## THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S

of the order are given by the principal to those who deserve recognition because of some special act which may distinguish them in the school life. Since 1896 "The Faithful Cross" has been given yearly by vote of her fellow-pupils to the girl who has been most faithful in her school duties and relationships. Until her death this was provided and presented by Miss Eleanor, since when the funds come from a permanent endowment given by the Alumnae in her memory.

The last mention in "Oak Leaves" of The Legion of Honor Cross, is to "Alix," in 1904, for saving "Dorothea" from a bad burn.

Alix Augustine and Dorothea Wayne were the other two children adopted and educated by Miss Shackelford and Miss Sands.

Many tales of interest could be told of these St. Faith's babies. Time will permit of the mention of two only. Both are of Erwin. A window, next to the one now being dedicated to dear Miss Eleanor, was put in the chapel by Irwin, the young Christ with outstretched arms and the inscription: "A little Child with a heart so large it takes the whole world in."

Walden Lodge, for many years the favorite haunt of the little people of St. Faith's, had its

## THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S

origin in a hut built by the Brownies—Virginia, Erwin, and Dane. There they played summer and winter, there came their friends for fleeting visits—Miss Sands, to offer some poetic idea—Miss Eleanor, a practical suggestion or merry quip to set the oak grove ringing.



*St. Faith's Pets*—What of Dane? Dane Trench Gordon! One of a whole menagerie of St. Faith's pets—live and otherwise. First, Harold, the man of the house in the little brown cottage on the lonely road; then Dane, an Irish setter, a gift from Mr. Trench, immortalized by many learned dissertations in "Oak Leaves," one of special note, entitled "Dane's Religion." Laetus, the happy one by name, but possessed of an ugly disposition. Good Cow Boss—Bonaparte. Moti Ange, cats, a hundred kittens, canaries and rabbits, white mice and pigeons. Grizzly, the robin, who used to fly in the window and perch on the flower pot at dinner time to eat anything he could get. "Our Old Owl," stuffed and perched over the library door, looking very wise. Oh, there are many more, but Billy Bones is enough to round up the list. He was part of the equipment for which the

## THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S

Regents paid half. Of late he loves to sit cross-legged in a dark corner at the end of a long narrow hall. Sunny Boy is our darling now.



*Campus Extension*—The first extension of St. Faith's campus came about through the use of the Mary Putnam Bull Legacy to purchase a lot at the corner of Pearl and Seward streets and to erect thereon the cottage now familiarly known as "Putnam," thereby securing the control of a desirable corner and acquiring a building that has proven its usefulness in a variety of capacities. A brief but interesting episode is St. Faith's Hospital; started in 1899, the idea was to do a good work and at the same time afford means of vocational training to the graduates of the school. Mysterious allusions to the Harmony Lodge set one guessing, but all that can be guessed is that Putnam was once called Harmony Lodge because, forsooth, music lessons and practice were there conducted, three pianos at a time. In the present day "Putnam" is a senior house, giving the story of discords of another nature modulated into the harmony of a peaceful family.

Also "on the other side of the stone wall" is the

## THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S

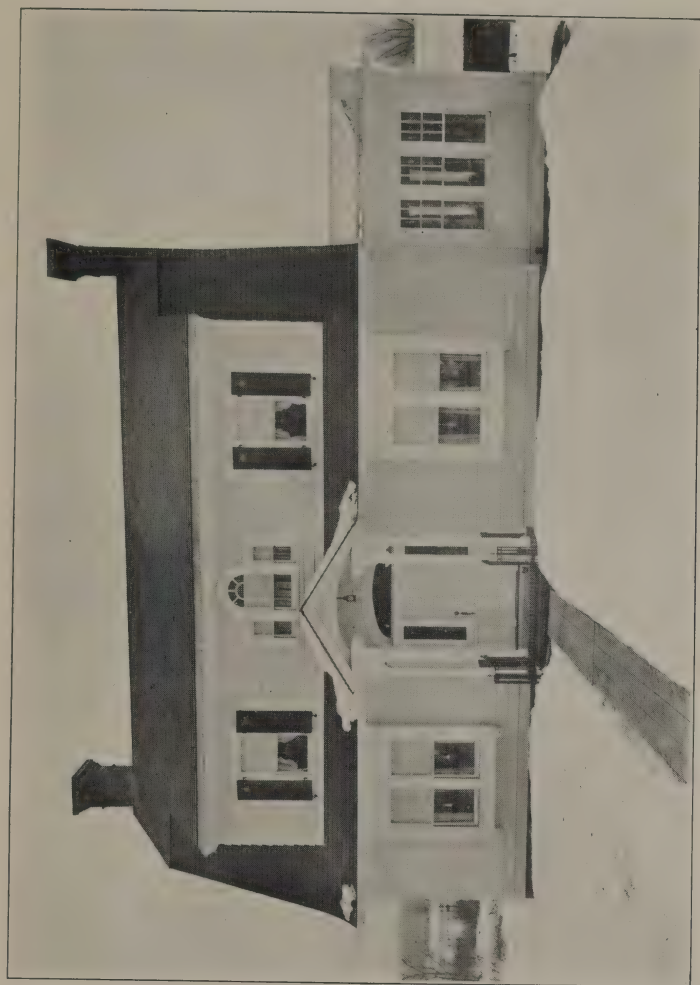
new principal's home. Completed in 1929, it provides a commodious residence for the principal and his family, as well as a social center for the school.

In February, 1901, Miss Eleanor faced the fact that the old colonial building was inadequate and unsafe. During that spring the foundation was renewed, June 17 the corner-stone laid, in September school began in new and greatly changed quarters. On All Saints' Day, at three o'clock, friends and family gathered around the hearth in the central hall. Mrs. Newman with ready taper, Miss Eleanor reading Miss Sands' verses for "The Hanging of the Crane":

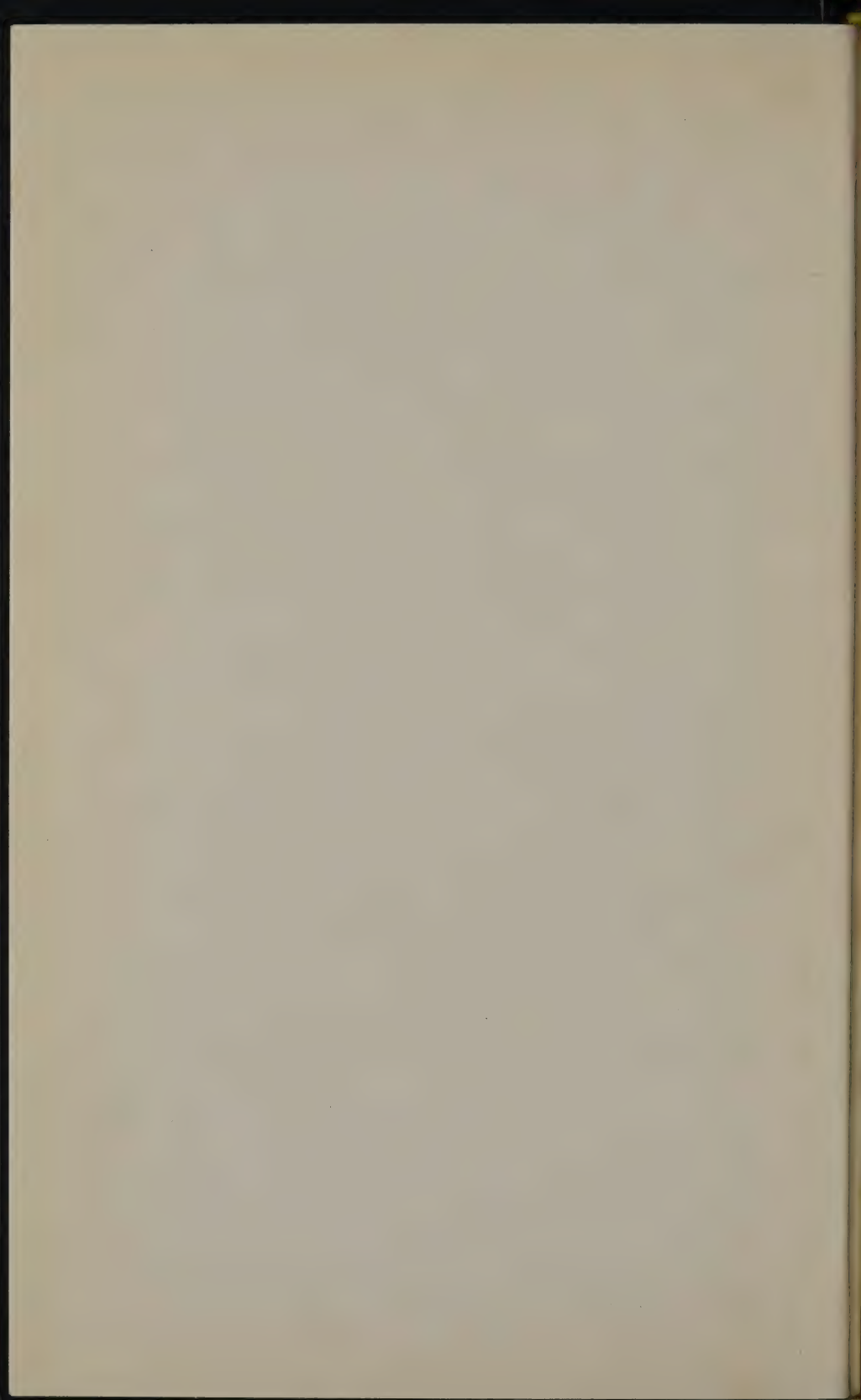
. . . . .  
Now thou dost light this fire, oh gentle hand  
To make a warm, wee corner in the land,  
And hang the kettle on the crane, to make  
Of this new house a home, a heaven-born thing;  
The song of home and comfort it will sing  
And in fond hearts an answering echo wake.  
So as the blaze glows bright and rises high  
Upon the clustering children standing by,  
Its spirit falls with mystic wondrous light  
Till each sweet face reflects its rosy glow,  
And each young heart an answering warmth will throw  
Into the great old world to make it bright.

Often in the years that followed did the firelight fall upon Miss Eleanor's beautiful face as she sat





THE PRINCIPAL'S HOUSE—COMPLETED 1929



## THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S

in the midst of her girls reading, telling stories, listening to tales or dreams and with ready wit starting the merry laugh that so endeared her to each heart.



*Inspiring Personalities*—Another fireside and another radiant personality left their deep imprint upon those young lives. Yaddo opened its gracious hospitality. The Lady of Yaddo shed a mystic influence upon their minds. "Christalan," her own beautiful story poem was dramatized—a forerunner of the much loved "King Alfred's Jewel" and "The Little Town of Bethlehem." The last visit—a never to be forgotten Christmas party. After a little play, a Christmas tree which held gifts, a beautiful Fra Angelica Angel for each, after dancing, feasting and much merry-making, there came a hush when the Lady appeared with a gleaming silver star held high overhead. "All the year we look for Christmas and the beauty of the Christ-child. All our lives we seek to draw near to Him. Tonight let us make, as it were, an allegory of this. Somewhere within this house is the manger. We will follow the star until we find the Babe." And so we did.

## THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S

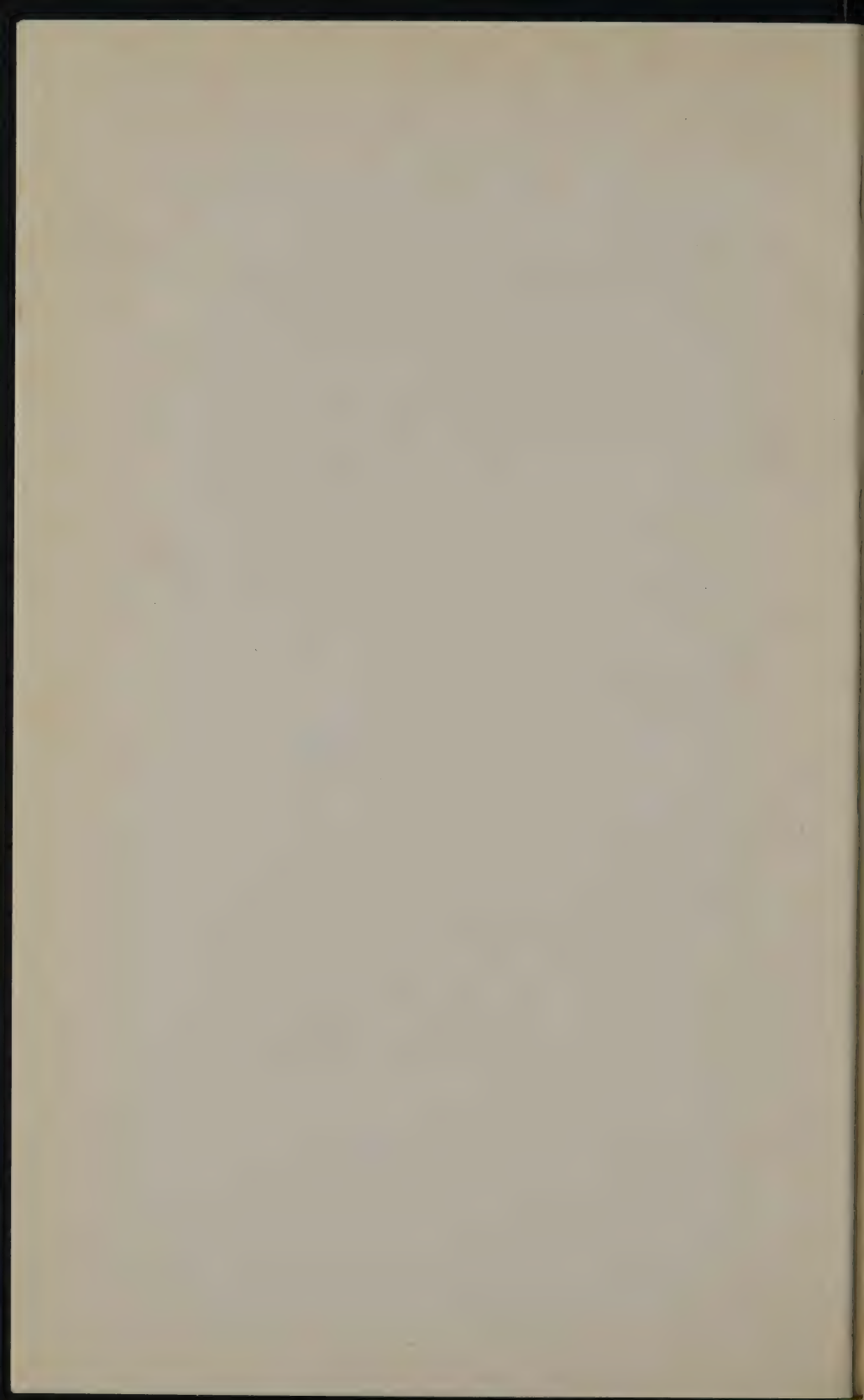
Up and down through strange ways we followed until we came to the chapel at the head of the stairs. There in the light of many little glass lanterns we found the crib. Carols poured out their music. The Lady took one of the lanterns and with a few sweet words of inspiration gave it to the nearest child, saying that he who finds the Christ can go forth to meet life without fear, for "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." So each girl left carrying a lantern in her hand and a new light in her heart.

The following Christmas found St. Faith's in Poughkeepsie in a beautiful estate on the Hudson. It was thought to gain advantage by being nearer New York City and in contact with Vassar College. Many beautiful associations cluster about the memory of those six years from the fall of 1904 to the spring of 1910. Mr. John Burroughs, noted naturalist and author, was a trustee of the school and often an intimate member of the family. St. Faith's summer camp at West Park was across the road from his home and many were the jolly parties of girls that accompanied him to "Slab Sides," his hut in the wilderness. Father Huntington, sometime chaplain, stirred and inspired by his unique personality. This move,





THE POUGHKEEPSIE HOME



## THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S

however, was not a success. The old grove called and St. Faith's returned to her ancestral pillars, where the affections of her daughters are deep-rooted as her oaks.

At one time during the Poughkeepsie sojourning, Elsie Baldwin, of the class of '06, wrote some verses for Miss Eleanor's birthday, which later, with the music by Susan Meyer, teacher of music at St. Faith's for several years, became our ringing school song.

St. Faith's hymn was written by Miss Sands in the early years of this story; sung for a long time to an unfamiliar tune from the hymn book, it was at last set to music of its own by the Rev. T. R. Harris, father of Barbara Harris, of the class of '28.

Miss Sands retired in 1909 and in the summer of 1912 Miss Eleanor became principal emerita, continuing to live on the school campus and take some class work for another two years.

When retiring from active work at St. Faith's, Miss Shackelford gave over, without reservation, all legal rights in the school property, both real and personal, by deed to the Board of Trustees, which is elected according to the charter of the school, retaining for herself the title of principal emerita and membership on the Board of Trustees.

## THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S

But her purse remained always open to the needs of St. Faith's and only shortly before her death, at personal sacrifice and expense, she made some much needed improvements to the school fabric.

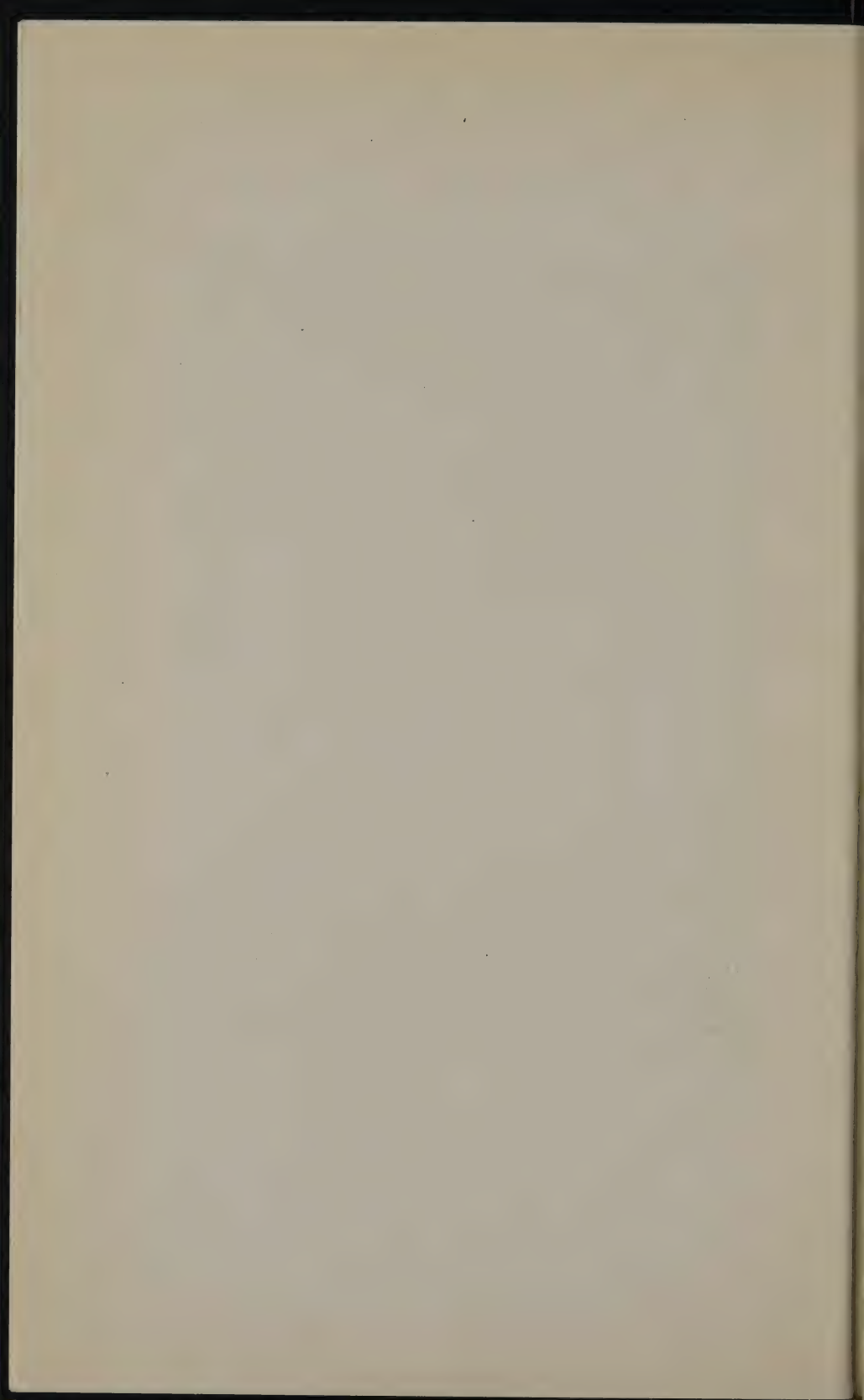
The Rev. Harry Clark Plum was principal of St. Faith's from 1912 until his death in August, 1922. In Miss Eleanor's own words, "He gave that which cannot be estimated in money value—the full power of a fine mind, the ability of a practical business man, his deepest affection and his physical strength."

Under his leadership not only were the high ideals of Miss Eleanor's vision maintained, but there was developed a detail of organization which growth and changed conditions imperatively demanded. Additions to the main building were made; the chapel was enlarged twice; several pieces of property were acquired, insuring control of nearby spaces; an old building on the north-west lot, possessed of hewn oak timbers and a good slate roof, was moved to a suitable site and altered for use as a schoolhouse in 1913; Shackelford Hall was built in 1918 and the west wing, now the library, added in 1921. Extensive plans for another building, to be called Baldwin Hall,





REVEREND AND MRS. HARRY CLARKE PLUM, PRINCIPALS.  
1912-23



## THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S

were interrupted by his illness and death. With a keen insight into the workings of the young mind he formed and established an organized student government, thus externalizing what had always been a vital part of the strength of the school.

In March, 1920, after a hugely popular snow battle, he conceived the happy idea of dividing the student body into two societies. So Sigma and Phi came into being, living a hearty existence ever since.

Through his efforts the church was induced to take a lively interest in St. Faith's, so that in 1918 she became the first school to receive provincial recognition, when authorized by the Province of New York and New Jersey. In all directions St. Faith's still reaps the benefit of his noble life.

One cannot enough admire and appreciate the noble way in which Mrs. Plum and her daughters "carried on" during his illness and until the appointment of the present Rector of St. Faith's. Through great anxiety, sorrow and physical strain they gave generously of time, talents and affection, and all who love St. Faith's pay warmest tribute to their contribution to the fulfillment of her ideals.

## THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S

In the summer of 1923 the Rev. Charles H. L. Ford was appointed rector and principal.

To those who hold dear the memory of the Founder of this school it is a great joy to know that Mr. and Mrs. Ford cherish her ideals, untiringly and intelligently interpreting the vision of the little wooden anchor of Hope Cottage.

Miss Eleanor kept in touch with the child of her vision to the eve of her entrance into Paradise.

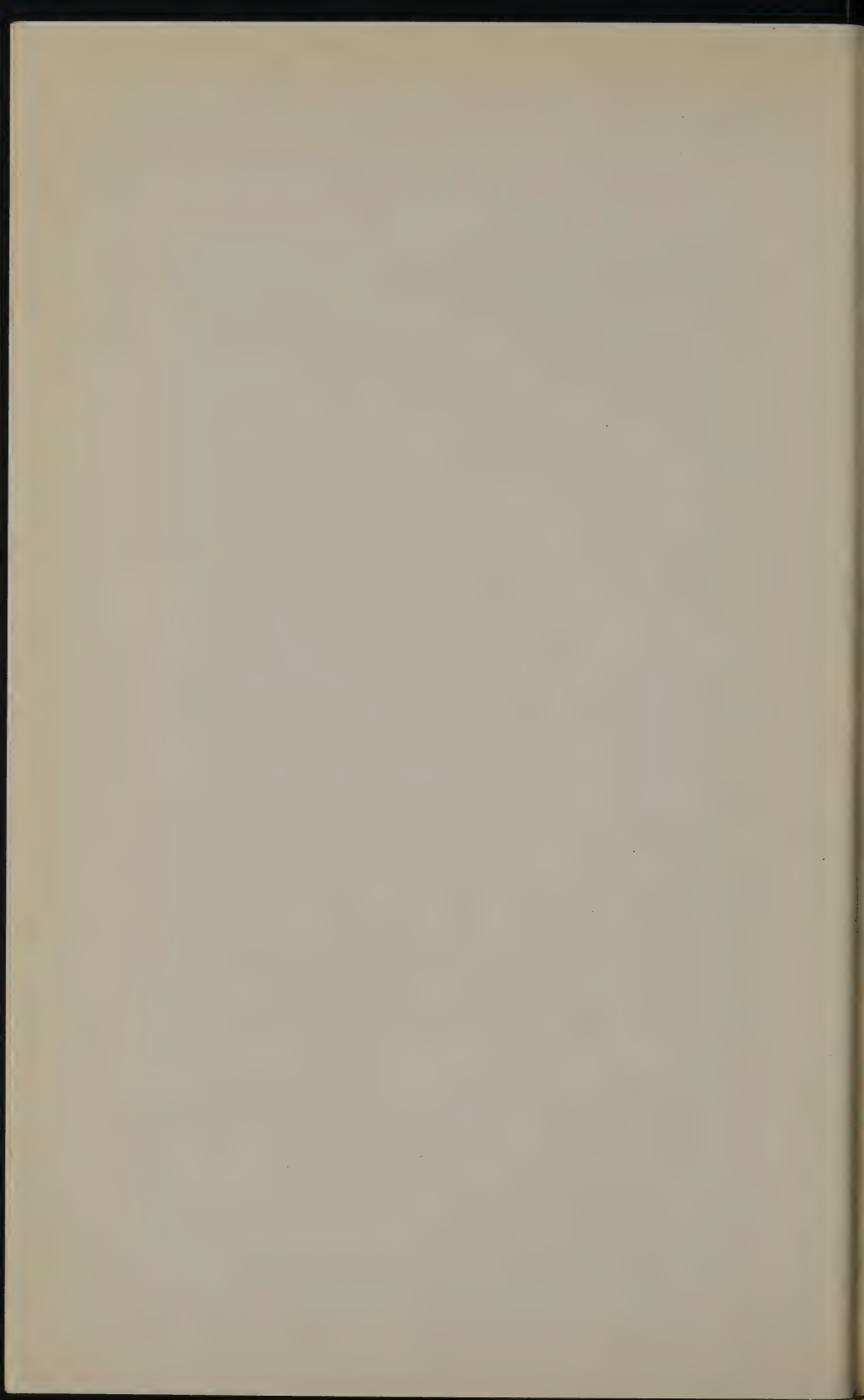
Her last activity at the school was on her birthday, six years ago, an impersonation of her great-grandmother, Doanda Putnam. With delightful sense of the dramatic, and a charming wit, she told the story of settling and developing Saratoga Springs and of building the colonial house in the old Putnam Grove.

In the spring of 1925, though suffering her last illness, she planned to the end to be with us for commencement, but finally had to send her messages. So she was not present when at the exercises Mr. Ford conferred upon her the gold medal of the Order of St. Faith's, but when receiving it later in the day, she appreciated to the full the tribute of the accompanying gazette, "beloved of Trustees, Faculty and Students, old and young alike."





MISS SHACKELFORD AT THE COMMENCEMENTS OF 1923 (ABOVE) AND 1924. AT THE LATTER TIME SHE CONFERRED THE FAITHFUL CROSS FOR THE LAST TIME IN PERSON



## THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S

As sunset deepened into night one month later she left us. The last days were full of thought for those she loved, so it was but in keeping that three nights before she went she said: "St. Faith's is God's work. He will take care of it."

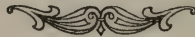
The years have developed St. Faith's from a school home, where a small group of girls lived the year 'round, into a modern boarding school that takes its place amongst the best. Throughout these years the dominating principle of her education has been to instill into the lives of her daughters the ideal of her chosen motto:



*Ecce Ancilla Domini!*—Never did school have higher ideals for aim. Too well we know that our *alma mater* does not fully live up to the glory of that wonderful motto. Each one feels that her contribution should be doubled. But deeply we love the purpose. To some very real, though often far too small extent, each daughter of St. Faith's demonstrates that love. Truly, with such results, our school is doing her bit to make this world a better place to live in.

## THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S

*The Chapel*—There is a picture deeply imprinted upon the memory of every St. Faith's girl. Late afternoon sunlight streams into our beautiful chapel; gracious figures stand forth from the stained glass windows; burnished brass reflects the soft colors of flowers and gleam of lighted candles; the gentle dignity of the Good Shepherd pervades one corner; the "Cross shines forth in mystic glow." It has its frame of endearing association, mental refreshment, spiritual inspiration and cherished ideal. In the center of the school home quietly, steadily, lastingly, this heart of our family life exerts its influence upon every phase of development. And in the broader life of world activities each recalls with loyal affection the daily gathering for worship, the sunny glow and radiant music of Sunday afternoon, the birthday remembrance, and Monday's Paradise hymn and prayer for the beloved Founder of St. Faith's.







THE CHAPEL



## THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S

### ST. FAITH'S SCHOOL SONG

As on the firm rock founded  
These walls securely stand  
By field and wood surrounded  
And towering oak-trees grand,  
Unconsciously, unknowing,  
They stand for truth and right,  
Our colors fair upholding,  
The yellow and the white.

Dissensions cannot move them  
Nor falsehood's marring stains  
While truth's blue sky's above them  
And loyalty remains.  
There's always someone ready  
To stand for truth and right,  
And guard with purpose steady  
The yellow and the white.

God bless our Alma Mater,  
Success attend her way,  
And may the lessons learned here  
Win every moral fray.  
Let any then who dare to  
Attack her honor bright:  
St. Faith's we'll guard forever,  
The yellow and the white.

## THE STORY OF ST. FAITH'S

### ST. FAITH'S HYMN

Sing we now of Faith the glorious,  
Weakness over strength victorious,  
Grace o'er nature triumphing;  
How St. Faith the battle fighting,  
Her own will with Christ uniting,  
Gloried in her God and King.

While the morning dew was shining,  
On her soul to Christ inclining,  
She to Him was faithful found;  
Not a torture great could move her;  
Christ by suffering stern would prove her,  
E'er she gained the Holy Ground.

By the strength of that her weakness,  
By her patience and her meekness,  
Souls to Christ her King were brought;  
Faith the fontal grace supplying,  
In their blood baptised when dying,  
Brief but faithful fight they fought.

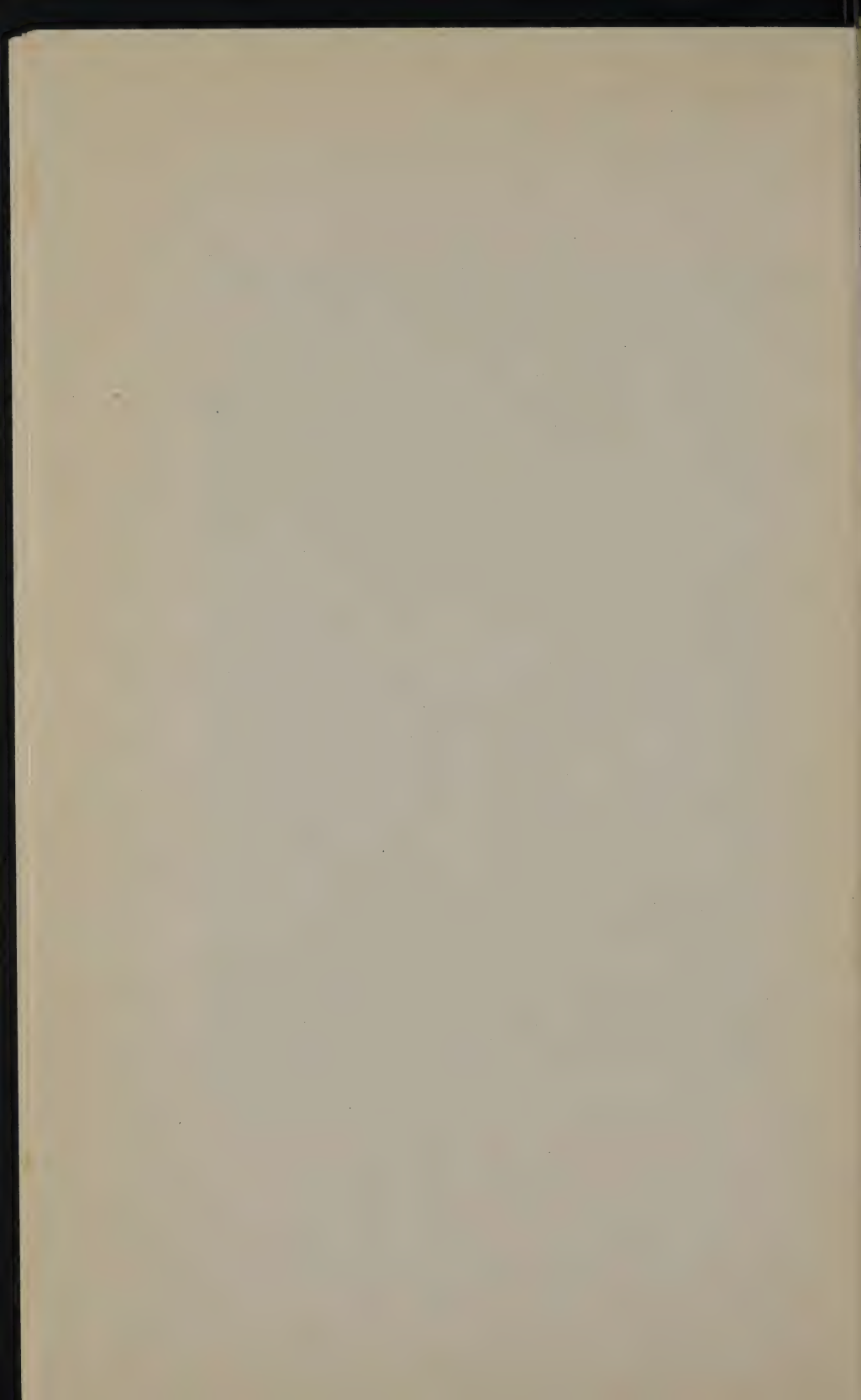
We in earthly weak condition  
Unto Christ make our petition  
For His Holy Strength and Grace,  
That we may in Him delighting  
Weary not of this our fighting,  
Faint not in our earthly race.

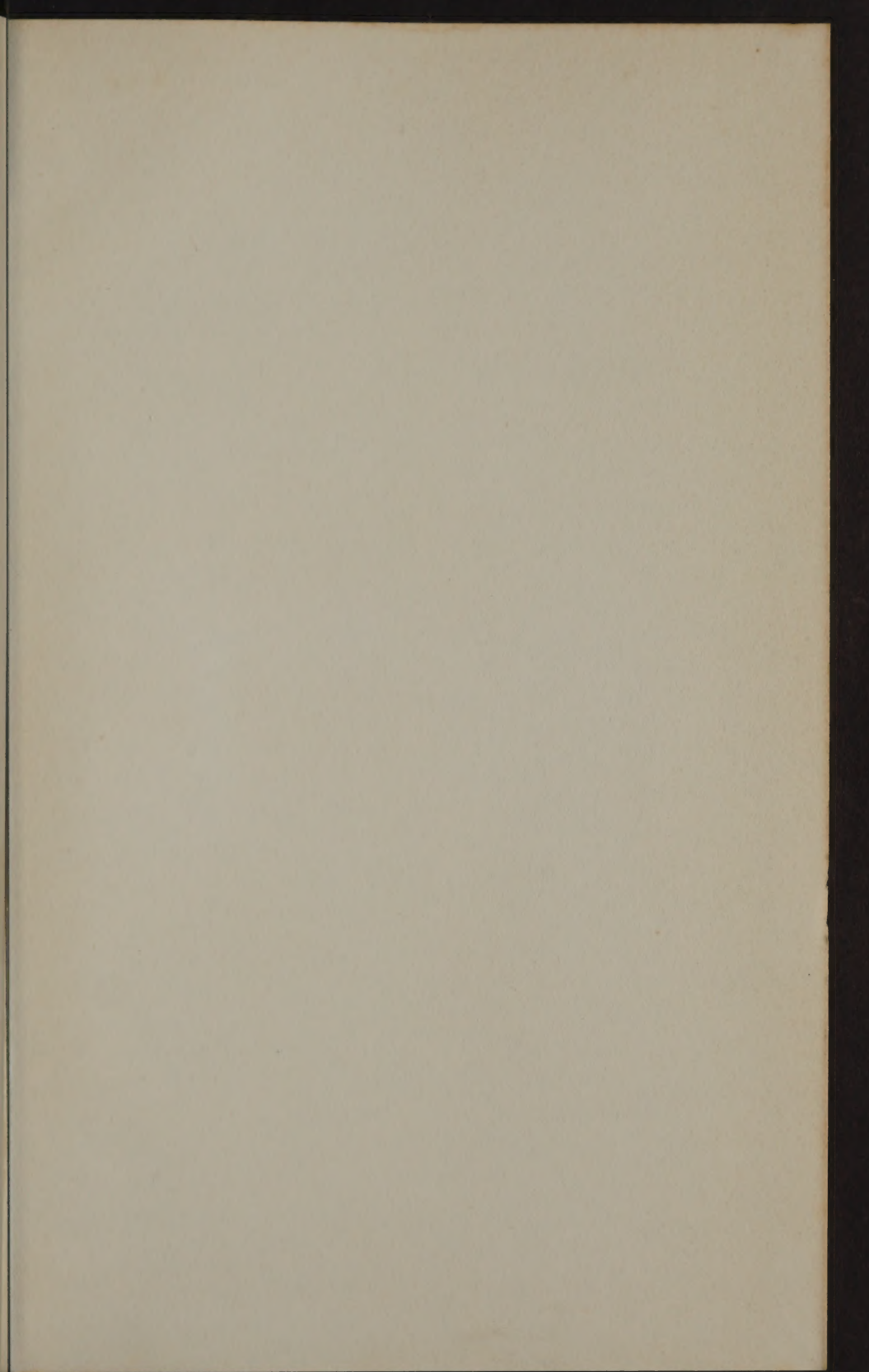
We now in this earth remaining  
Unto Christ our eyes are straining,  
Longing for His Glorious Face,  
When this life at last is ended,  
May the veil by HIM be rended  
Quite removed by His good Grace.





MISS ELSIE BALDWIN, GRADUATE OF ST. FAITH'S, AND  
AUTHOR OF THE WORDS OF THE SCHOOL SONG





340/25: E  
19-



